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Bright lights
Paromita Kar of Ensemble Topaz wowed a full house at the Diwali Festival of Lights at the Haliburton Legion on Nov. 16. More photos inside this edition.
/TIM YANO Staff photographer

Increased need for food and heat is a growing social crisis

JAMES MATTHEWS
Staff Reporter

Poverty in Canada is spiralling out of control.
And Highlands East isn't immune to

that spiral's inertia of hardship.
The power of more than 60 volunteers and two permanent staff members at the Central Food Network help people meet their essential needs throughout Haliburton County.

They strive to eliminate food, heat, and hydro insecurity in the community.
"We envision a Haliburton Highlands where everyone has enough to eat and sufficient home energy to live comfortably," Tina Jackson, the network's executive

director, said during Highlands East's township council's Nov. 12 meeting.
The Food Rescue Program distributes
see FOOD page 2

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Developer says condos will be community oriented

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

Proponents of a Cardiff housing development have gotten around water and wastewater issues that hampered previous proposals.

Steve Tunks of Teska Development Corporation laid out plans to Highlands East township council for the residential condominium development. His presentation during council's Nov. 12 meeting marked the third time the proponents have talked with council about a condominium development in the Cardiff area.

The proposed condo project over 50 acres consists of two three-storey buildings with nine two-bedroom units and 18 one-bedroom units in each. The buildings will be constructed over two phases.

"We're trying to make a very nice community-oriented building," Tunks said.

The buildings will contain a lobby on each floor with an elevator. Parking will be at the front and back of the buildings with two reserved spaces for each unit.

Tunks spoke about issues around sewage treatment and water protection being concerns in previous outings,

past pitches about housing developments.

But the third time could have a charm.

"This property will suit the requirements quite well," he said.

And that leg up may be in piggy-backing a cellphone tower access road and an entrance to the proposed housing development. If Highlands East municipal staff deems the access road land as surplus and sells Teska Development a slice to be used as development access.

Eastern Ontario rural residents know well the need for modern-day cellphone telecommunications service and wireless internet access. And so Tunks lauded the tower development in the area.

"But for us in particular it means that there will be one access road off of (Highway 118) and that we would be able to share the road facility with the cell tower people," he said.

The housing development will be owned by investors, Tunks said. Some of those investors may in fact be people who will live in the condos.

"We look at it as a rental building but it could have a lot of individual investor-owners," he said. "And that's currently where the reservations sit with this project. Investors are looking for rental income property to sup-

plement their own retirements.

"I would have to say that the description is a bit of a hybrid. It's a condominium and you could own it, but I expect that most of the units will be available for rental."

Mayor Dave Burton asked Tunks to describe the development's water and sewage needs.

In a previous attempt to break ground on the build, it was discovered that the municipal sewage lagoon was at or above capacity, Tunks said.

"You couldn't add a doghouse to the program without over-extending it so it couldn't go there," he said.

The current parcel to host the construction is not on municipal water and sewer as were the first two proposed sites.

"As a result, it needs to have its own septic or sewer capacity system and it needs to generate its own water as it will not be on community water as well," Tunks said.

To that end, Teska Development has been working with a contractor that makes tertiary-based municipal class wastewater systems.

"The water coming out of this system is clean," he said. "So clean you can drink it. The reality is the water is going to go back into the water table cleaner than it came out."

Food bank visits nearly doubled in recent years

from page 1

more than 100,000 pounds of food annually. On the heat bank side, hydro grants and firewood are provided to people throughout Haliburton County who are struggling with home energy.

"We also offer more personalized recommendations and supports to help those individuals and families identify and access other programs and services and financial benefits to help in the longer term," Jackson said.

The network also maintains a presence on various community committees and outreach efforts to broaden the range of help that can be provided.

It's because of the dedication of volunteers and staff that more than \$3 worth of food, grants, and financial benefits for every \$1 raised in donations is dispersed into the community, she said.

Visits to food banks across Canada have almost doubled over the last five years, Jackson said. More than two million visits to Canada's food banks occurred in March alone.

"Locally, we are continuing to see increases in the number of people needing our services and visits to our food bank are also increasing at an alarming pace," she said.

An average of 57 more people are served each month by the local network compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic. Both area food banks experience more than 307 monthly visits.

"Which is over 100 more visits monthly than pre-pandemic," Jackson said. "And this means that not only are more people needing access to a food bank, but the people walking through our door need help more frequently."

Here are few more numbers to quantify the level of local need: One in every seven local residents access food assistance at least once a year. Of the people accessing assistance, 33 per cent or 182 people are children; 26 per cent or 146 people are seniors; adults make up 38 per cent or 207 of those who avail of what's on the food network's shelves.

Both local food banks have already served 535 people this year.

"Which is more than we have ever served before and, again, we haven't even hit our busiest months," Jackson said.

They're the employed and the people unable to work. They're adults and babies. They're single people and married couples. Some have families, other don't.

"They are our neighbours, friends, maybe even our family," she said. "I can almost guarantee that everyone in council chambers right now not only knows one person, but multiple people who are needing our services just to get by," she said.

Basically, when federal or provincial social programming falls short of adequately helping people, the

“

Locally, we are continuing to see increases in the number of people needing our services and visits to our food bank are also increasing at an alarming pace.

— Tina Jackson, Central Food Network

crowd at the food banks hear about it first.

"Responsibility to take care of people's basic needs feels more and more like it is being downloaded to local charities like ours," she said.

If that trend continues, Jackson said there's concern the network's apparatus of help won't be sustainable.

Nancy Wright-Laking, chairperson of the network's board of directors, said we've moved from a time when individuals may have needed assistance periodically in their life. In today's financial struggle, many people have come to rely solely on the food and heat banks.

"Sometimes that's twice, three times a month," Wright-Laking said. "We are in real social crisis and I don't think that we can sustain having individuals, volunteers fund-raise and support and sustain individuals eating and being able to heat their house."

She said people have to lend their voices to the lobby for a Grocery and Essentials Benefit similar to the regular good and services tax rebates Canadians receive. And call on the provincial and federal governments to do more to meet the need.

"It's one thing to try to do something with something," said Deputy Mayor Cecil Ryall. "But when you're doing something with nothing, it makes it more miraculous in the way that you operate."

He said Highlands East has already given all the support this year that was possible. But he vowed that council would try its best to come through for the network in 2025.

"We are sitting in a position where, I'm sure, we can maybe help a little bit more and we will see what happens at budget time," Mayor Dave Burton said.



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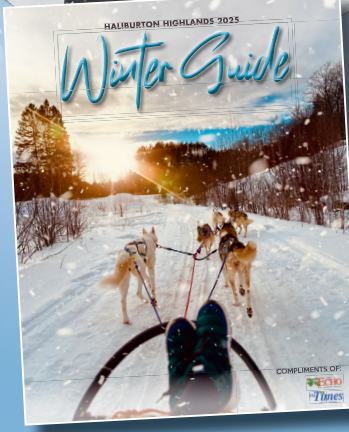
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Making magic; Haliburton welcomes Santa to town

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Deck the halls, there's a very important person coming to town.

As per usual, Santa Claus has made arrangements with the Haliburton District Lions Club to visit Haliburton on the evening of Nov. 22, and will join the parade through the downtown core.

Claus has been informed that this year's theme is "the Colours of Christmas", which, as parade coordinator Jim Frost has noted, can be "whatever people would like it to be!" With the parade starting at 6:30 p.m., Frost said that one of the best parts of the annual event is the bright lights. "It really makes it magical," he said.

Frost and his colleagues in the Lions Club take great pride in the sleigh they built for Claus, and it continues to dazzle crowds year over year.

The idea behind the float started in 2004, when locals Sam Charlton, Jim Meadows, Ernie Winterburn, and Ken Noble got together to brainstorm a ride for Santa. With sponsorship and support from the Lions Club, as well as the Haliburton BIA, the four were able to develop a vision that has become iconically linked to the annual parade.

Using recycled styrofoam from the local landfill, Sam carved each reindeer by hand. They were then able to set up the deer on a moving pedal system, using recycled exercise equipment. A wagon was purchased for the float, and extended to reach 24-feet, which then became the base for the intricately designed buildings, including a church, a toy store, and a little barn for the reindeer. The builders noted that they wanted each side of the float to be identical, so that children and adults alike would be dazzled, no matter where they stood during the parade.

As Claus watched the builders chip away at his chariot, he did note that they needed a sleigh for him to sit in. Thankfully, there was one for sale by John and Rhonda Francis, who, upon hearing the purpose of the purchase, dropped the price significantly.

All together, the builders put in 3000 hours of work into the float. "They drank a lot of coffee and ate a lot of donuts but everyone had a great time," according to the Lions website.

And now, we have the well-known Santa Claus float; complete with intricate moving reindeer flying over a magical, lit-up village, and Santa in his sleigh, waving to the crowds. It's always a fan-favourite, and has even attracted attention from neighbouring towns, who inquire about borrowing it for their own parades, but Frost has noted that unfortunately it doesn't travel far distances all that well. For now, the gem will be kept for Santa's stop in the Haliburton Highlands. "We're very proud of it," said Frost.

The full history is captured in great detail on the Lions website, in the form of an online scrapbook. While themes and ideas have changed over the years, Santa's sleigh has stood strong, dazzling parade-goers for decades.

This year's parade starts at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 22, with caroling starting at 5:30, and the official tree lighting at 6 p.m., just before the parade kicks off. Once again, Tammy Rea will be recording the entirety of the parade, to share with residents of long term care homes across the county. "We're very grateful for Tammy," said Frost. "It's great to share this with everyone."

With the unpredictability of late November weather, be sure to dress appropriately for the outdoor conditions. The parade route has been slightly shortened, now starting at the United Church in Haliburton, and weaving through the business section of Haliburton's downtown core.

"We love how it brings everyone together, every year," said Frost. "It's a really fun event."

Claus echoed Frost's sentiments, and looks forward to seeing the smiling faces of Haliburton at the event.



Sam Charlton, Jim Meadows, Ernie Winterburn, and Ken Noble stand in front of the intricately designed Santa Claus Parade float, which first came into fruition in 2004. It has dazzled crowds every year since. /Photo submitted

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Correction:

In last week's *Echo* and *Times*, the event start-time for the upcoming Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library 16th Annual Fundraiser Event was written incorrectly. Please note that the event starts at 1 p.m. for the silent auction and refreshments, with RH Thomson's presentation starting at 2 p.m. at the Haliburton Legion.

County budget reflects careful balance of more from less

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County residents could pay the equivalent of an average bottle of wine to cover the upper tier portion of their tax bills next year.

The total levy required to maintain county services in 2025 is a little more than \$25 million, which represents an extra \$13 per \$100,000 of assessment on a residential property.

That's a 5.15 per cent tax rate increase over last year.

The economic and fiscal impacts from various sources continue to have signif-

icant operating budget pressures next year. These impacts have bearing on discussions to ink the county's 2025 capital and operating budget.

"As service delivery costs continue to increase each year there is a continued concern that overall county service levels may be impacted to accommodate these increases," according to a draft of the budget presented during council's Nov. 13 meeting.

Cost increases were highlighted to provide council an understanding of the impact those costs have on the overall annual tax rate.

"Today is intended as an introduction to the budget," said Warden Liz Dan-

ielson, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands. "Some members of council have been working on it for a bit."

It's hoped a final draft of the 2025 budget will be ready by mid-December.

"Unless we run into any roadblocks between now and then," Daniels said.

"We have a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility within the county," said Gary Dyke, the county's CAO.

Treasury staff have been focused on soundly prioritizing how money is spent, he said.

"We made a number of changes in the budget where we shifted money away from certain things to reference the importance of them," Dyke said.

The spine of the prioritizing was ensuring required services will be provided efficiently for county residents, he said.

"The way the budget is put together, it reflects a careful balance of the acknowledgement of the impacts of any increase on the ratepayers across the county," Dyke said. "But also at the same time recognizing the pressures being put on the local municipality as well. The spheres of influence that directly relate to them. We've taken that into account."

Some of that financial pressure on the lower tier municipalities is in the service cost increase for local policing by the OPP. It averages to an about 22 per cent rate increase over last year's policing bill.

"We've taken all that into consideration," he said. "However, at the same time, we experience our own significant financial pressures at the county level as well."

That pressure for the upper tier is reflected in the costs for social services and housing services through the county's partnership with the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Dyke said the cost of those services for Haliburton County has increased by a whopping 33 per cent. According to draft budget documents provided by Kawartha Lakes, that increase equates to about an extra \$700,000.

"Which has a significant impact on our budget going forward," he said. "These increases come at a time ... where, once again, we received a 15 per cent decrease in the infrastructure funding we receive from the province."

That provincial funding has decreased by that amount each of the last three years.

For perspective: The province cut a cheque for \$630,000 for infrastructure services in the county in 2022. That amount has dwindled since then to \$387,000 that will be received next year.

"We are faced with the immovable challenge of raising funds to do the work that we're charged to do with an antiquated revenue system which is the property tax base," Dyke said. "It was a system that was introduced in Ontario in 1849 and, aside from some new classifications put in place, it's roughly the same process, the same system that was put in place in 1849."

He said there is no reflection of how much money residents make a year. Rather, taxation is based on how much a property is worth. In Haliburton County, about 72 per cent of the tax base is residential properties.

"Just in perspective, the provincial average is 21 per cent," he said. "We're very mindful of that."

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Highlands Summer Festival launches their silver season

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

The Highlands Summer Festival (HSF) has been known to dazzle audiences in the region for years. 25 years, to be exact.

That's right, this year HSF will be honouring their "silver anniversary", officially marking 25 years of drama, comedy, and music right here in the Haliburton Highlands.

And with the milestone, comes the opportunity to bring a fresh face into the mix. Douglas Walker has officially been announced as the new artistic director of the organization, following in the footsteps of former director, Scot Denton, who was with HSF for over two decades.

"It feels great, it's very exciting," said Walker. "It's something I've thought about for ages, but didn't realize it would happen now."

Walker and Denton share a wealth of experiences together, and Walker noted that he has an open-door policy with the former director, who has given him nothing but support and encouragement since stepping into the role.

And what a time to step in. With the 25th year on the roster, Walker felt the need to make this season's lineup truly stand out. With support and input from the HSF board, Walker managed to confirm three outstanding plays that will be brought to local audiences this summer.

The season kicks off with the well-known musical, *Urinetown*. "This one is really right up my alley in terms of how silly it is," chuckled Walker. While it has humorous moments, the show carries an undertone of political commentary, which will not go unnoticed by viewers.

"The show was one of my choices for



Ryan Dawson and Kate Campbell as the leads in *Salt Water Moon*, during its original run in the Haliburton Highlands 25 years ago. The play was the first Highlands Summer Festival show performed, and will be returning to the stage to mark the silver anniversary of HSF this summer. /FILE

up here, because it really melds well with community theatre," said Walker, "everyone of all ages can be in the show, anyone in the community can take part."

Walker also noted that the music that weaves the show together is both catchy, and clever, and will be sure to dazzle audiences of all ages. "If *Les Miserables* and Monty Python had a baby, it would be *Urinetown*," said Walker.

The second play of the season is the Canadian love story, *Salt Water Moon*. "It's a beautiful play," said Walker, referencing the Newfoundland-set tale.

Some long-time members of the Highlands Summer Festival may recognize this show, as it was one of the very first shows HSF put on in their first year of inception. "We wanted to do something to really market that this is our 25th season," said Walker, "so it's a full circle moment with *Salt Water Moon*, to honour the first season, as well as try to do our new things moving forward."

The third play on the roster is *Drinking Habits*, which is a farce, and something that Walker is very excited about. "It has all the tropes you would see in a tradi-

tional comedy farce," he said. "It's super fast-paced; lots of entrances and exits, ludicrous storyline," he laughed. The play is set in a convent, which is struggling to keep its doors open. So naturally, the nuns turn to making wine in an attempt to keep afloat. "It's another example of great community theatre," said Walker. "It can bring the whole community together."

And that's exactly what Walker hopes to do this season at HSF. "I want everyone to audition for these plays," he said, noting that auditions will be held early in the new year. He is hoping to see some new faces, as well as opening up the doors to those who may not live locally by offering virtual auditions.

On top of the three plays, the HSF will also feature two concert offerings: The Fitzgeralds, a Bancroft-based band, who are well known for their Celtic tunes, and Jay Davis and the Feeling Buble Band. The full lineup can be seen on the Highlands Summer Festival Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as their website. Season's tickets can be purchased online.

While the 25th season of HSF warms up, Walker is happy to be settled into the community, officially calling Haliburton "home" since June of this year. Originally hailing from Scotland, the new artistic director is happy to be settled in the community with his young family. "This is the first small town I've lived in," he said, noting that with his background in dance and theatre, he is usually drawn to urban centres, "but I am ready to be here. You don't realize you're ready until you're really here. But I am ready to be here, ready to be a part of the community here."

More information on this year's HSF lineup can be found at www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca.

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146 Highland Street, P.O. Box 360,
Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0
• 705-457-1037 • Fax 705-457-3275
Published by White Pine Media Corp



DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON,
General Manager and Sales
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

EMILY STONEHOUSE, Editor
emily@haliburtonpress.com

CIRCULATION
subscriptions@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS, Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

THOMAS SMITH, Reporter
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

REED SACHAROFF, Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

INSIDE SALES
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir



Archives

NEWSPAPERS ARE funny things. Sometimes they work as fire starters or table protectors when the finger paints come out. Sometimes they're read with tea and toast and then stacked in a discard pile on the way to the local landfill. I've even seen them shredded up for chicken coops, or plastered in windows to hide what's happening inside.

They serve many purposes. But sometimes, they are just kept. Small clippings carefully cut, capturing a moment in time. My mom still has stacks of these little pieces of history; a faded black and white photo of myself at a few months old, being cradled in her arms while she helped another child with a craft. Another where myself and a local girl are singing Christmas carols at Victoria Street School in the early 1990s.

I love these little snippets of life from our community. And I love that they meant enough to my mom to keep them; the pages now papery thin and on the cusp of floating away on the faintest breezes.

The best part of these clippings is the moment in time they have captured. It's something I was reminded of while I was being shown the online scrapbook of the Haliburton Santa Claus Parade over the years.

Linda Doyle-Heeps has diligently kept each and every newspaper clipping of our local Santa Claus Parades over the years; each organized by year and title.

Those moments in time, captured. Each year, there are some differences. Some that are more noticeable, like the weather or the lighting, and others are small details, such as a slight change in font or way in which the page is laid-out.

The *Echo* over the years has changed drastically; different voices, different styles, different writing protocols.

But, in an amazingly warm way, it

has also stayed the same. It has been there to capture all those moments in our community; the lights, the smiles, that same moment Santa sees the camera and gives whichever photographer was on that day, his famous glowing smile.

I felt an immense amount of pride as I went through that online scrapbook of newspaper clippings, all with the same common denominator; knowing that it was our little paper that has preserved these memories.

I am sometimes asked about the longevity and sustainability of the newspaper industry; what is our demographic, and is there a risk - what with the whirring of the online world at our fingertips - that the print newspaper industry could die.

And while I have questions about our future - who doesn't? - I can't help but look to our past.

Because those pictures, those moments that are captured year-over-year, they mean something to our community.

When I covered the holiday concert put on by our local schools last year, I snapped a photo of my youngest step-daughter singing Christmas car-

ols with her class. It made me think of that newspaper clipping that my mom had saved; of myself singing that same tune, standing beside another local girl. The image grazed the front page of the *Haliburton Echo* in the early 1990s.

When I zoomed in on the shot I had taken this past year, I realized that the girl standing beside my step-daughter, singing her little heart out, was the daughter of the girl I was standing next to from that original photo; the page now papery thin and on the cusp of floating away on the faintest breezes.

So here's to our local papers, and the moments they capture. Newspapers serve many purposes, but my favourite will always be a time capsule to our own history, here in the Haliburton Highlands.



emily
stonehouse

Editorial

An ordinary day

NOVEMBER WAS his least favourite month. As he donned his heavy coat, an old hat and some gloves, Don sighed the sigh of inevitability. For every year he went through the same sequence of events - or rather, non-events.

His birthday came and went each year with little to mark its passing. Don knew he should be used to that, should not expect anything different but every November he had the same irrational hope that maybe this time would be different.

Moving through a monochromatic world of wind and low clouds, he pulled up his collar, walking George past dusty sideroads and stark maples. The two of them kept out of the bush at this time of year. Hunters weren't always as aware of non-critters as Don would like. Or maybe they were. It's just that he was in such a negative mood that he found himself thinking the worst of everyone and everything.

Oh to be a dog like George, he mused. No thoughts of past or future. No plans, no memories and no regrets. He trudged along, not seeing the blue jays streaking overhead. A fox crossed the road near the bend. George saw it and that tipped off Don. It was gone in a flash, the colour lingering for a second in his mind's eye.

The wind was whipping up the lake. He could see white caps, the water sloshing energetically against the shore. No canoeing these days. Up ahead his neighbour Molly was stringing lights around the ancient cedar that the chickadees so loved to nest in. Molly waved a greeting and Don returned it.

Not stopping to talk, he and George walked on. Most of the buildings along here were seasonal though there was the odd year-round home like his. And some people continued to come during the winter months if there was enough snow for outdoor activities. Big expensive machines and all that went with them would then crowd the driveways and trails. But that was changing. Winters seem to be getting warmer and last

year there wasn't much snow.

A pair of crows chuckled from the oak beside the boat launch. George looked up then continued his inspection of the tangle of raspberry canes littering the ground.

When Don was a youngster, his mother had made a big deal of his birthdays. There'd be a party to which most of his classmates would come. Presents, cake with coins buried in the frosting, pop and games and excitement that started when he woke up in the morning and sent him into an exhausted sleep at bedtime.

But that was a long time ago. Now that it was just he and George in the house, there was no one to share the day or even to remember the day. He told himself it didn't matter; he wasn't a kid anymore and every day was pretty much the same.

Up ahead a deer stuck its head out of the bush then quickly withdrew. George pulled on the leash but to no avail. They had

now reached the turn around spot and started to head back. A drop of rain landed surprisingly on Don's nose. Looking up he saw the clouds had thickened and looked ready to open up a downpour. He picked up the pace.

The two of them made it home just in time. Although a little damp, the real onslaught began as they were going through the side door. Then the skies really opened up, pounding like a hammer on the steel roof.

There was a message on his land line. It was Molly. She wanted to know if he was okay since he hadn't stopped to chat earlier. Don wasn't sure whether or not he wanted to phone her back. Looking down at George who was busy licking the rain off his fur, he pondered. Then he picked up the phone and called her. He had made a huge pot of stew two days before and needed help to finish it. She agreed to help him with that job. And just for fun, she said she'd bring cupcakes for dessert. Happy birthday to me, thought Don with a smile.



The red skies have been rolling across Haliburton County with the cool fall air. /TAMMY NASH

Down



sharon
lynch

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points of view

Backward thinking

THE OTHER day I woke up with the intention of trying to be a productive member of society – which just goes to show you that no good deed goes unpunished.

The punishment started after I brushed my teeth, washed my hands and face, and combed my hair, which is a process that forces me to spend far too much time in front of the mirror.

Fortunately, Jenn was there to take my mind off of what I saw.

This time she did that by thoroughly inspecting the tee shirt I was wearing.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"Just checking to make sure that you didn't put your tee-shirt on inside out and backwards," she said nonchalantly.

"Good job!" she then said.

I should have left it there. Instead, I asked a really dumb question.

"Do I look like a guy who puts his tee shirt on inside out and backwards?" I queried.

She just stared at me, raised her eyebrows, sighed, and walked away. It was not the kind of response that a good lawyer could hang a guilty verdict on. On the other hand, it was eerily similar to the reaction I typically get when I ask whether formal attire includes ball cap.

Basically, she left me with no choice other than to take her answer as a yes.

And I'm going to come right out and say it. I was more than a little insulted.

I mean she was not wrong. I am the poster boy of that guy. I put my tee shirt on inside out and backwards two to three times a week. But that's still no reason to call me out on it.

For one thing, you should never judge a man's shirt orientation until you have tried putting it on the right way in the dark.

But more importantly, pointing this out to your partner indicates you have no faith that the person you are speaking to can change. Which in this case is definitely wrong, because sometime in the afternoon, probably in a very public setting, I would have figured it out all on my own.

Also, when did we start getting so uppity about shirts?

Not that long ago, women were ecstatic to see their men wearing shirts that did not have teeth, tails, hooves, antlers, and skulls attached. But was that enough? Apparently not.

Now, they have false expectations too.

Frankly, Jenn could have cut me some slack.

It's not like I've ever wore a buttoned shirt inside out and backwards. (OK, full disclosure: I did do it once, but it was during a black out and I figured it out after fastening the collar.)

Besides, we men have a proud tradition of putting on our shirts backwards. Why else do you think we invented capes, lobster bibs, ascots, or full suits of plate mail armour?

That's right. It was to hide our embarrassment.

Unfortunately, all those things were deemed unnecessary shortly after someone invented the tag that's on the back of our modern tee shirts. Some genius apparently surmised that that little tag would be enough to alert us that our day had started out horribly wrong.

And it does, five times out of seven.

Which, if you ask me, is a huge step in the right direction.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

WEST GUILFORD Public School- Our bus gang 1938
Jack Kaufmann, Evelyn Scott, Doreen Barry, Noel Griffin, Archie Scott, Moreen Barry, Jaqueline Cameron, Murray Upton, Wayne Griffin, Morgan Upton, Jackie Barry, Cecil Scott, the bus driver.

Note: Pic of past photos are submitted, therefore we cannot always ensure accuracy in all names.

letters to the editor

We must build community

To the Editor,

I am officially in mourning for the death of life as we have known it, as the results of the American election roll in. As the infrastructure of democracy crumbles the world over, we have little choice but, as the old Sunday School song said, to *Brighten the Corner Where You Are*.

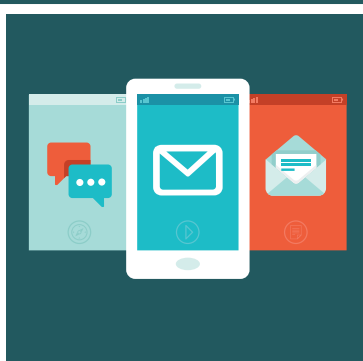
We need to intentionally build community in the small part of the world over which we influence and control. We must refresh our sense of citizenship, steward the land as well as our Indigenous forebears did, practice our neighbourly

skills, be kind and compassionate while holding people with whom we have relationships accountable for their behaviour.

Building community is within memorable history here because we are regularly reminded that we are not the boss of nature, that it's bigger than us and marches to its own drummer, that it holds us accountable for our behaviour. Embracing that humility gives us a chance to manage what awaits.

Fay Martin
Minden

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.



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After spending days with excruciating back pain, Owen decided it was time to visit the Haliburton Highlands Health Services emergency department. This set the wheels in motion for a three week journey he did not expect to take this September. He shared his grateful patient story with us.

Owen and the emergency doctor discussed the pain...was it a kidney stone, bladder stone, gallbladder? An ultrasound revealed a fuzzy lump in the bladder. Something that needed further investigation. Owen was sent home with pain medication, an appointment for another ultrasound and emphatically urged to see a urologist. Owen's family doctor stepped in with a urology referral, a visit

to a cystoscopy clinic and finally surgery. It was determined that the mass was a cancerous tumour. Thankfully, the cancer cells are low grade and Owen's prognosis is good.

In his own words, he is thankful for "that little ER ultrasound" otherwise his bladder cancer would have gone undetected. Owen has committed to making an annual donation to the HHHS Foundation to show how grateful he and his family are for the timely, exceptional care he received. With upgraded tools and equipment, doctors in Haliburton County can make better and faster diagnoses for people like Owen.



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In Honour Of: _____

2024

Lewis Road surface upgrade will save money, says residents

JAMES MATTHEWS
Staff Reporter

Some Lewis Road area residents have asked Highlands East council to upgrade their thoroughfare to a chip and tar surface.

Others living in the area are requesting the road remain as it is.

Two petitions were launched in September that were directed at residents of Lewis Road, Heather Drive, Hammersmith Lane, Sandy's Lane, and Colborne Creek Road.

One petition asked people to sign in support of upgrading Lewis Road to a chip and tar surface. It drew 108 signatures. The other rallied residents of those streets to support having Lewis Road's gravel surface remain. That petition garnered about 41 online names.

"The petition in favour of maintaining a gravel surface had to be shut down as the voting was tainted by participants who paid to publicly share the petition, which garnered votes from people outside of the community," said Lewis Road resident Charlie Atkinson in a letter to council for its Nov. 12 meeting.

He said it's believed that petition was about one-third for a gravel surface with the remainder in favour of chip and tar before the expanded parameter ballooned 41

votes up to 82 signatures in three days.

Atkinson said the majority in the Lewis Road community want township council to earmark money in the 2025 capital budget for a hard surface for the 4.3 kilometres from the Lewis Road-Dyno Road intersection to the road's end at the Paudash Lake boat launch.

"The current situation is untenable for many residents, seasonal property owners, and the environment," he wrote.

There are benefits to be had with a hard surface on Lewis Road, he said.

It will enhance safety given the increasing volume of year-round residents, deliveries, construction and maintenance vehicles, and short-term rental visitors who drive the road.

The township will pay less maintenance costs as there will be less need for grading, dust control, and washout remediation.

"Typically, we can't open the windows to our home facing Lewis Road," Atkinson said. They have to wait for a calcium chloride spread to quell the dust.

A chip and tar surface will remove the need for the calcium chloride application which harms the surrounding ecosystem. It leaches into the water supply, negatively affects wildlife and plants, and causes vehicle corrosion, oxidization, and rust.

"It creates some health risks to folks that I know who have asthma," he said.

A hard surface would make the road more hospitable and safer for walking, bicycling, and motorcycle riders.

And Atkinson said a hard-surfaced road might provide safer and faster access for first responders when attending an emergency.

Regarding the financial impact on ratepayers, Atkinson said the investment in the preparatory road base work and topping with chip and tar is estimated at \$650,000.

With chip and tars life-cycle of about 20 years, Highlands East could potentially save more than \$1.5 million over that span through reduced maintenance costs.

"Our petition result show that the majority of Lewis Road residents want this upgrade," he said.

As such, he said council should reinvest in the road's future by allocating money in the 2025 budget for the upgrade.

"It'll probably be referred to the budget (deliberation) time, Charlie, so there'll be no decision made today," Mayor Dave Burton said. "But we'll pass it on."

"Any thoughts or feedback in general on the ask?" Atkinson said.

"Not right at this time, no," Burton said.

"Okay."

"You didn't really expect that, did you?"

"Nope," Atkinson said. "Never hurts to ask, though, does it?"



Dazzling dances

Dance Happens Here Haliburton (DH3) hosted their first Diwali Festival of Lights on Nov. 16 at the Haliburton Legion. With approximately 175 in attendance, the sold-out event offered food from Masala Kraft in Lindsay, with dances from Paromita Kar and Angelica Maret, and music by Karim Khimji with Safari Sounds Musical Services. Attendees were taught traditional dances and songs by the performers, and fun was had by all during the colourful and festive evening. /TIM YANO Staff photographer





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Remembering Cheri, and the table she set

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

When I sit down with a family and ask them about a loved one who has passed, I always ask for three words they would use to describe them.

With the Hicks family, when it came to their mother, their wife, their grandmother Cheri Hicks, those words snowballed quickly into many more than three.

"Unique." "Kind." "Patient." "Colourful." "Calm." "Sweet."

The list went on and on.

The family was seated together, on a drizzly day in November. They had gathered to chat with me; to share the stories of Cheri. While not everyone participated in the conversation - some nodded in unison, chimed in with agreement - it was important to them that everyone was there. That they all had a seat at the table. "We're all on the verge of tears," said her husband, Bruce.

But even through the tears, you could feel their heart, their warmth, their connection, from simply being together.

Cheri Hicks passed away on Oct. 27, at the age of 62. "It was very sudden," said Bruce, noting that she passed in her sleep. They believe the cause was an enlarged heart, which can create complications if not identified. "But it was peaceful," noted Gavin, her eldest son.

Her sudden passing jolted the community. When news of her death was spread, over 500 people came to pay their respects at her celebration of life on Nov. 2 at the Stanhope Community Centre. "We are feeling very supported by the community," noted Gavin.

Cheri called Haliburton home for the



Cheri Hicks, centre, pictured with her husband, Bruce, and their four grandkids. Cheri passed away suddenly at the end of October, and her family took some time to share her stories. /Photo submitted

majority of her life. Originally hailing from the Toronto area, with her mother as a nurse and her father with the OPP, Cheri moved with her family to the region when she was 14.

It was a few years later that she met Bruce, who was working at the Rockliffe in Minden at the time. "I was working there, and she was a patron," he chuckled. "She was just so sweet."

The two later got married, and Bruce started working for Mississauga Fire

Department, and Cheri began working with the Peel District School Board. The young couple purchased a home in Oakville, but when their second son, Brady, was born, they made the move to Haliburton.

Cheri and Bruce went on to have two more boys after Gavin and Brady; Robby, and Ben.

This was where Cheri truly shone. "She was a very patient mother," said Bruce. "She was always very calm. She always had everything under control and was so organized."

And life with four boys was far from calm. With Bruce commuting for work to Mississauga, and all four boys interested in a variety of sports, Cheri was everywhere, sometimes all at once. Victoria, Ben's wife, shared a story she had heard at the celebration of life, where Cheri would prop baby Ben up in a hockey bag while she went into super-mom mode; tying hockey skates and taping sticks for the other three busy boys.

But the closeness she forged with each of her sons from a young age carried on as they got older.

"She was a part of our entourage, part of our crew," reflected Gavin. "Even when we got older and we could drive ourselves places, she still always came along. She was our biggest fan. She was at every single thing for us."

And as the boys eventually met their partners in life, that sense of community and camaraderie carried into their relationships. "It's amazing to see these four boys," said Danielle Hicks, who married Gavin, after years of friendship. "It's such a big family, but Cheri and Bruce took us under their wings, and fostered such a close-knit environment."

She always gave everyone a seat at the table.

Danielle noted that the four brothers maintain an incredibly close bond; even living in different time zones, and a few with young kids now in tow. On top of that, each brother is married, and their wives have all become "best friends, as well," shared Danielle.

And you can feel that. When you talk to them, they finish each other's sentences, chime in to support one another; echoing their sentiments.

They're a team, a group, a family. Everyone has a seat at the table.

And that's because of Cheri, and the table she set for her family, her people.

"She was friends with all of our

friends," said Gavin. "They were the parents that got invited everywhere." The rest of the family agreed, noting that Cheri and Bruce were at every wedding, every party, every event.

"They made a community for us," said Danielle. "They always made us so welcome."

And as the boys grew and built lives with their significant others, they started growing their own families. "I really want to highlight Cheri as a grandmother," said Rachel, who married Brady, and have two children together, Aila and James. "It was the most amazing thing to watch her love our kids. She truly shone as a grandmother, and she always wanted to be with the grandkids."

"She said yes to every single opportunity. Every single adventure," said Danielle, through tears. "She just wanted to do everything with the grandkids."

And while hundreds have shared their memories of Cheri, both online and in person at her celebration of life, the family reflected on the many other lives along the way that Cheri's sunny disposition had impacted; including the many kids she worked with through both the Peel and Trillium Lakelands school boards. "It's crazy to think of all the lives in the community she changed," said Danielle. "There would have been so many that she touched in her line of work that we don't even know about."

But Cheri lived in the moment. She poured her heart into raising her boys, into building their family. She welcomed everyone and anyone with open arms and a warm hug. She was the "selfie queen", and captured each and every moment to share with friends and family. She was the light for so many, and her absence has left a dark spot in the lives of all she touched.

But she's not gone. That's something that was clear when I spoke with the Hicks family, on that drizzly November day. Her soul, her spirit, her light; it was right there in all of them. The way they finish each other's sentences, chime in to support one another; echoing their sentiments. You can feel their heart, their warmth, their connection, from simply being together. She built a family on love, dedication, and a little bit of super-mom power.

And her light won't be dimmed any time soon. She will always have a seat at the table.

Shindig set for this season

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

It's that time of year again. Many locals plan their holiday season around the long-awaited Highlands Christmas Shindig, set for Saturday, Nov. 30 this year at the Haliburton Legion.

Now in its 11th year, the Shindig is in support of Fuel for Warmth, which directly benefits the many families and individuals in Haliburton County who struggle with keeping their heat on over the winter months. "We're not just fundraising," said executive director for the organization, Sue Waite, "we're really trying to help people."

The Shindig came to fruition many years ago as the brainchild of Mike Jaycock and the late Lorraine McNeil, who co-hosted a show together on Canoe FM, and created characters to perform at the Shindig for the wonder and amusement of giggling crowds.

Their personalities captured the hearts and minds of locals during the holiday season, and as the years went on, the Shindig continued to grow, each year raising more money than the last.

They didn't even take a break during the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced them to change gears, and offer the programming virtually, which had viewers tuning in near and far, and funds continuing to be raised.

Yet, like many local events, the programming needed to evolve and grow in order to build their audience. This was when producer Drew Allen stepped into the role.

"There was talk two years ago that the Shindig would die," he said. "And I thought, I don't want this to die, this thing is fantastic."

Allen remodeled the program, and

shifted it from being a pantomime show with multiple acts, to a single act with one well-known band. The energy and enthusiasm behind the cause is still alive and well, just with a slight tweak to the programming. "We want to give people in the Highlands a fun night before Christmas," said Allen. "It's just supposed to be a really fun evening."

Last year, through the funds raised, Fuel for Warmth was able to help 62 families with accessing heat, and delivered 31 loads of firewood. "It's extremely gratifying," said Waite. "It's nice to be able to say we help. It's very humbling for me."

This year's band is Ragged Company, which Allen believes "will have people up and dancing by the first song." The well-known hosts of the event, Amy Brohm and Victoria Bingham, will be back and quirky as ever, with many audience members attending just to join in on their fun.

While funds are raised through ticket sales and raffles at the event itself, much of the fundraising happens leading up to it, through corporate sponsorships. "We have a really, really generous community here in Haliburton," noted Waite, when referencing the many businesses across the county that contribute to the cause.

Beyond their fundraising efforts, Waite and Allen hope the Shindig will simply get the word out that the organization exists, and that they are readily available for anyone who may need a helping hand this year. "We are here to help people," said Waite. "It's heartbreaking to hear some of these stories."

Tickets for the Highlands Christmas Shindig are available via Eventbrite, or at the door on the evening of Nov. 30. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with the band starting at 7:30 p.m.

If you or someone you know may benefit from the assistance of Fuel for Warmth, contact Sue Waite at 705-854-9208.



Oh Christmas Tree

This year's town tree came from the Salvatori family, and the space in town is courtesy of Anthony vanLieshout. The official tree lighting will take place during the Santa Claus Parade on Nov. 22. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

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to provide a thriving community where everyone feels connected and supported.



Hello Haliburton County,

We are all concerned about our neighbours who are struggling right now. These are tough times. Many people we see every day do not have enough food to feed their families. And people who are alone, ill, frail, precariously housed, disabled, or depressed may need prepared meals. That's one of the things we do at SIRCH.

SIRCH has a simple way you can have an immediate impact on those who need help the most. Since 2020, SIRCH's Community Kitchen has made and given out over 86,000 healthy meals – all funded entirely by donations.

Our goal this year is to give out 1,600 meals each month, free, to residents in Haliburton County and North Hastings who are struggling and hungry.

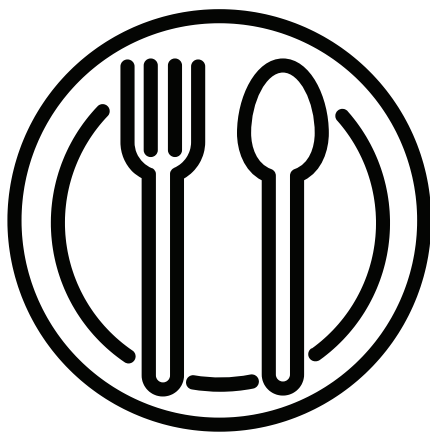
Please give a donation during our Gifts from the Heart fundraiser. It will make an immediate and measurable difference!

Gena Robertson
Founding Executive Director,
SIRCH Community
Services

"Last night I skipped dinner so my daughter could eat"

"Without the help of SIRCH meals, we wouldn't be eating this week"

Last year, because of your generosity, SIRCH gave out 16,800 free nutritious meals.



"SIRCH steps up when there's nothing available to meet the need"

SIRCH meals are funded entirely by donations!

Please Donate What You Can...

- sirch.on.ca/donate
- scan the QR Code
- VISA, Mastercard, AMEX:
- Call: 705-457-1742



All eyes on Haliburton for new turtle tunnel fencing system

THOMAS SMITH
Staff Reporter

The Turtle Guardians have worked on their turtle tunnel fencing project for the past six years. After reviewing similar projects throughout North America, Leora Berman says that they are excited to announce a new version of turtle tunnel fencing to be used in Haliburton County and beyond.

Berman says that there are 97 potential sites in the county worthy of a turtle tunnel fence system. The Turtle Guardians are focusing their efforts on installing the tunnel fencing on high mortality sites first. These sites are where turtles frequently cross the road. They are not just hazardous to the turtles, but hazardous to drivers.

Installation, maintenance, durability, and cost of materials were all factors to consider when coming up with their new design. Ultimately, they landed on using half-cut food grade steel barrels with stabilizers, buried below road shoulders. This would allow the barrels to be back-filled and allow animals to get off the road, but prevent smaller animals from going on the road. They also needed to not be an eyesore and could handle a heavy snow load in the winter. The half-cut barrels act as a barrier that coerces turtles towards ecopassages for safe travel across the road.

Berman says that a turtle will not typically travel more than 50 metres from its annual path without becoming distressed. Making the turtles travel further afield or translocating them can pose a real risk to their lives as they must remain in their home-ranges.

Berman estimates that the half-cut barrel design costs \$15 to \$20 per metre, is easy to install, and manufacture.

"We wanted to make sure this was foolproof," says Berman.



For the past three years, the Turtle Guardians have worked with the county to pilot this prototype to protect the lives of turtles and drivers. Their new design for turtle tunnel fencing was tested in Gooderham with positive results.

The Turtle Guardians will begin the installation of their latest turtle tunnel fence in the coming weeks. "We will continue to do it until the snow flies," says Berman. Late fall is the perfect time to install the bespoke tunnel fencing as most of the turtles in the area have already begun to brumate. Staff will check the areas in which they are installing the fencing to ensure that they are not disturbing nests or brumating turtles. This time of year also means that there is

less traffic on the roads without the summer visitors. Topsoil will be added after installation and a native species of grass will be planted.

Turtle Guardians is actively recruiting volunteers to assist with installing the tunnel fencing. Diggers are required to aid in the installation of the fences. Flaggers are on hand and Berman says that all gear will be supplied to volunteers, except safety boots.

The Ministry of Transportation is keeping their eye on this turtle system, says Berman. If successful, the system could be implemented across Ontario highways with upgrades such as adding a coating to the barrels to lengthen their durability beyond 10 years. The ministry

is looking at ways to save species protected by the Endangered Species Act. So far, Berman says that working with the Roads department has been a great collaboration.

"We have seen big losses," says Berman. This and last year, the Turtle Guardians saw the most fatal collisions against turtles, and this year, losses of the largest turtles. With turtles only being able to replace their numbers every 60 years, this year has shown massive losses to the wildlife and ecosystems of Haliburton County.

"We are only smart if we work together," says Berman. Working together with road crews, the county, and the public we can find a balance, ensuring turtles will be around for our grandchildren and theirs. Only as a community can we work towards the best solutions.

The Turtle Guardians would also like to announce the release of the 2025 Turtle Calendar. This year showcases rescue turtles in custom-made scenes where they work various jobs including road crew, barista, firefighter, OPP, doctor. Sales from the calendar go directly towards the Turtle Guardians' tunnel and incubation work. The calendars are \$15 and can be purchased online through their website TurtleGuardians.com. The calendars can also be purchased at a variety of retailers throughout the county including Castle Antiques, the West Guilford Shopping Centre, and Glecoff's.

The Turtle Guardians will also be hosting a Holiday Open House on Dec. 6 and 7. Bring the family along to take a photo with Santa's turtle-elves in the turtle photo booth. Calendars will be available to purchase as well as unique gifts, perfect for the holiday season. Snacks will also be served. Turtle Guardians are located at 6712 Gelert Rd in Haliburton and the event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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60						61				62			
63						64				65			
66						67				68			

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Thou __ do it

6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

9. Brainstem part

13. Town in New York state

14. Little (Spanish)

15. Continent

16. Retch

17. Short-billed rails

18. Small period of time (abbr.)

19. Confused

21. A team needs one

22. Woman in ancient times

23. Republican Party

24. Spanish be

25. "The Godfather" character Johnny

28. Not around

29. City in Zambia

31. A type of beginning

33. Numb

36. Gurus

38. Small, gray-headed crow

39. Vehicle type

41. Disorders

44. One point east of southeast

45. Indian soldier

46. Tree type

48. Midway between south and south-east

49. It cools your home

51. Corn comes on it

52. Ship's deck

54. A way to bake

56. Improvised

60. Butterfly genus

61. Baseball fields have them

62. Designated space

63. Discharge

64. Two of something

65. Once more

66. Part of your face

67. Tax collector

68. Cassia tree
- CLUES DOWN
1. One-time Aaron Rodgers target

2. Wings

3. Overly studious person

4. They protect your valuables

5. The Volunteer State

6. Non-hydraulic cement

7. Horse mackerel

8. Jackson and Diddley are two

9. Splendid displays

10. Mountain in NE Greece

11. A daughter or your brother or sister

12. German surname

14. Having more than one husband at a time

17. Romanian city

20. Energy

21. Makes less hot

23. Gas diffusion electrode

25. Former CIA

26. Set an example for others

27. Support of a particular person

29. One from the Big Apple

30. Mountain range

32. Violate the sanctity of something

34. Supervises flying

35. Talks

37. Persian male given name

40. Born of

42. Forcibly take one's possessions

43. Discounts

47. Knockouts

49. Posh Colorado destination

50. Form of therapy

52. British rock band

53. Type of virus (abbr.)

55. The U. of Miami mascot is one

56. Volcanic crater

57. Middle Eastern nation

58. Sinn __, Irish organization

59. Ethiopian lake

61. Bits per inch (abbr.)

65. Equally

Red Hawk Runners wrap successful cross country season

Two Runners Represent Haliburton at OFSAA

The Red Hawk Cross Country team wrapped their season last week, with two runners representing Haliburton at the OFSAA Cross Country championships in Ottawa at Mooney's Bay Park on Nov. 4.

Annika Gervais ran in the Novice Girls division, qualifying with a fifth-place finish at COSSA the week before. Gervais said it was a learning curve, racing in a big field of runners, with 282 entries in the OFSAA race. Racers include both individual and team qualifiers. Gervais found it difficult to make up ground after strategizing to go out slower due to a steep climb right at the start of the course. The course featured two 2 KM laps.

Gervais also found herself running through ice rain and wet conditions that caused her shoe to come untied twice during the race despite double-knotting them, which she found very frustrating. She completed the course in 17:54, finishing in 109th. She is proud of what she was able to accomplish this season and the experience motivated her to train harder and race smarter next year.

Grade 11 runner Brechin Johnston represented Hal High in Senior Boys, a big feat in itself to qualify out of COSSA as a first-year senior. Johnston continued to improve his race times throughout the season.

By the time the Senior Boys hit the OFSAA course after a rain-filled day, many sections were muddy and the downhill slippery. Johnston ran a really determined race however, nearly matching his pace time from the previous week at COSSA under ideal conditions. Johnston completed the 6 KM course in 23:18, finishing 180 out of nearly 300 runners.



Senior girls work as a pack at Lakefield during the race. /photo submitted

He said the hardest part of the course was not the hill, but the leg-fatiguing sandy beach stretch that ran along the Rideau River.

The coaches of this year's team, Karen Gervais and Erin Smith, are proud of all the athletes' accomplishments and the

work they put into the season and how they represented our community with pride and integrity.

This season, the team fielded 14 competitive runners that attended meets at Dagmar Ski Hill near Uxbridge, Lakefield College School and Kawartha and COSSA

that were both held at Jackson Park in Peterborough.

Strong runs this year also from Violet Humphries in the Senior Girls field, opening her competitive season with a second-place individual finish at Dagmar which helped the team to a second-place team finish. Humphries was 13th at COSSA in a very talented field of senior runners.

The Senior Girls team as a whole experienced a lot of success with a first-place team finish at the Lakefield Invitational, a second-place team finish at Dagmar and Kawartha, but ending up in a disappointing fourth at COSSA, despite very valiant efforts by the girls. Olivia Gruppe followed up Humphries placing 18th at COSSA, with Cheyenne Degeer in 21st and Ella Gervais finishing in 24th to round out the team scoring. Hannah Sharp, was also a strong contributing runner, with some fast early-season runs; Grace Alder, who shone at Lakefield, and Teagan Hamilton with her steady improvement each meet. Different runners contributed to team scoring at each meet. Their success was largely attributed to their amazing commitment and support of each other at practices, but marred by struggles with illness throughout the season and missing veteran runner Erika Hoare, who was sidelined with a concussion before the season even started.

Other season's bests from Izzy Valentini with her tenth-place Kawartha finish and Tristan Humphries who steadily improved his pace-times with every competition.

Submitted



HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

FOR MINDEN + AREA FAMILIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

UNWRAPPED GIFTS ARE BEING COLLECTED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING.

Township Of Minden Hills - 7 Milne St, Minden
CIBC - 95 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden
Haliburton Chrysler - 13533 Hwy 118, Haliburton
Kohara + Co - 175 Industrial Park Rd, Haliburton
Minden Fire Dept - 12418 Hwy 35, Minden
Home Hardware - 16 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden
Minden Post Office - 6 Water St, Minden
Ridgewood Ford - 12560 Hwy 35, Minden
TD Bank - 14 Water St, Minden
Ommmh - 8 Milne St, Minden



NEED FOR TOYS FOR ALL AGES 0-18. ESPECIALLY 10-13



HOLIDAY HAMPER

APPLICATION INFO

FOR MINDEN + AREA FAMILIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE DURING HOLIDAYS

CALL-IN APPLICATIONS:
November **25th - 29th**
December **2nd - 6th**
FROM 10AM UNTIL 2PM
CALL 705-286-6400



Please call at these times to guarantee supplies and appointment time

HAMPER PICKUP Wednesday, December 18th 1-3pm
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



Husky hustles

It was a tense game between the Haliburton County Huskies and the Collingwood Blues on Nov. 16 in Minden. The Huskies fell 6-0 against the Blues, with non-stop penalties totalling 18 minutes in the box per team. After a brawl broke out at the end - the result of three separate fights starting simultaneously on the ice, another 12 minutes of penalty minutes were acquired. The Huskies return to the county on Nov. 30. /TIM YANO Staff photographer



Municipality of Dysart et al
Notice of Special Meeting
2025 Budget Projects and Priorities

Take notice that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on Friday, December 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss projects and priorities for the 2025 Budget. The Municipality has also set the following dates (if required) to review the Budget:

January 10, 2025 and February 14, 2025

These meetings will be livestreamed. You can view the proceedings by visiting the Dysart YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVWZxsvf8VCyDf04uwjCJ6g>

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk



Notice
(Applicant – Jones)

In the matter of the *Municipal Act* and in the matter of a proposed By-law of the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of an Original Shore Road Allowance along the shore of Esson Lake, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice Is Hereby Given, pursuant to the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, and the *Municipal Procedures*, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at a virtual meeting on **Tuesday the 10th day of December 2024**, at 9:30 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Firstly: Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lots 26 & 27, Concession 15, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on Plan of Survey 19R-11035, made by **Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc. completed October 1, 2021.**

Secondly: Part of Lots 26 & 27 Designated as Road Allowance shown on Registered Plan No. 409, Concession 15, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 2 on Plan of Survey 19R-11035, made by **Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc. completed October 1, 2024.**

The Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by you making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or e-mail the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the public meeting.

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

And Take Further Notice that if the public wishes to participate regarding the purchase of Shoreline Road Allowance please contact the Municipal Clerk.

Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 12th day of November, 2024.

Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk
Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
WILBERFORCE, ON K0L 3C0
rogers@highlandseast.ca
(705) 448-2981



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

V	N	N	E	S		S	R	I		E	S	O	N
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WANTED



HISTORICAL PHOTOS FROM AROUND
HALIBURTON COUNTY

Preferably from before 1970
Help revive our *Pic of the Past* section by sending in your pictures. Bring them in to the Echo office at 146 Highland Street or email them to emily@haliburtonpress.com with dates and any other information.

Community safety and well-being in Haliburton County

While so many of us love where we live and feel like we can thrive in Haliburton County, that is not true for all of our family members, friends and neighbours – and might not always be true for ourselves too as we face life’s challenges. We all want to live in a community where everyone is safe, has a sense of belonging, and can participate in activities. We also want both individuals and families to have what they need to access education, health care, food, housing, income and contribute through social and cultural expression. This ideal state is the goal of Community Safety and Well-Being [CSWB] planning. CSWB planning supports a collaborative approach, bringing together partners to address local priorities through the implementation of programs and strategies in four areas:

- Social development (helping communities grow stronger and more connected);
 - Prevention (stopping problems before they start);
 - Risk intervention (helping people when they are facing serious risks) and
 - Incident response – acting quickly in emergencies.
- Through this planning, we want to shift our focus from a reactive, responsive-based approach to a more proactive, holistic approach to community safety by working together instead of in silos to solve problems before they lead to emergency situations. Local municipalities throughout Ontario have developed Community Safety and Well-Being Plans as mandated by the provincial government. Haliburton County’s CSWB Plan was created after consultation with local resi-

dents, organizations, community groups and service providers, and was approved by all local councils in early 2022. Priority areas identified in our plan are similar to those identified in other communities, though we know these challenges can look different here than in other less rural areas:

- Housing and Homelessness
- Poverty and Employment
- Mental Health, Substance Use and Addiction, and
- Healthcare and System Access

The plan outlines 12 goals and 25 strategies intended to address some of the community’s most critical safety and well-being challenges, which are designed to enhance what already exists in the community, and to innovate where key gaps linger. The Haliburton County CSWB Advisory Table brings together service provider representatives and other leaders in the community from different areas such as education, social services, mental health, youth services and police services. This group serves as champions of the CSWB within their work, and discusses challenges, opportunities and emerging issues while providing stewardship for

our local Plan. The newly established Haliburton County Police Detachment Board takes into account this CSWB Plan, as well. As CSWB Plan coordinator, my role is to work with the Advisory Table and all relevant partners including committees, agencies, and residents to exchange information, facilitate collaboration and support the successful implementation of the CSWB Plan. Haliburton County’s Community Safety and Well-Being Plan isn’t just the responsibility of a few people, or something that applies only to organizations and agencies - it’s a plan for all of us. We can each do something to help make our community better for everyone who lives here. Look for more information in columns to come about the work being done and the work we need to do in our community to ensure everyone feels safe and well. To learn more about Community Safety and Well-Being in Haliburton County, visit haliburtoncounty.ca/CSWB. Submitted by Sue Tiffin, Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Coordinator, County of Haliburton

Giant Trojan Horse to visit Haliburton County

On Thursday, Nov. 28, the Trojan Horse Tour will visit Minden and Haliburton as part of the province-wide tour. CUPE’s Ontario Council of Hospital Unions (OCHU-CUPE) and the Ontario Health Coalition are calling for an end to ongoing privatization of hospital surgeries and diagnostic tests, and demanding the government invest in staffing and capacity in health care and public hospitals. The Trojan Horse is a metaphor for a trick or strategy that is meant to have people let their defences down and then get overrun by the enemy, in this case, health care privatization. The Trojan Horse represents the false claim that privatizing

surgeries will reduce wait times in public hospitals. Ontario now funds our public hospitals at the lowest rate in Canada with the lowest staffing levels and bed capacity. Please join the press conferences to show your support in: Minden 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Municipal Parking Lot, near Town Hall Haliburton Village 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Municipal Parking Lot, near the Information Centre For more information call Bonnie Roe 705-457-6579.

Submitted



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
TO ZONING BY-LAW 2005-120 OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

• **DATE:** TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024
• **TIME:** 9:05 AM
• **LOCATION:** TAKE NOTICE THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE 135 MAPLE AVENUE, HALIBURTON, ONTARIO AND IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT USING ZOOM

Application:
Lands of Klossner
File No. D14-ZB-2024-011

Purpose and Effect: The application will rezone the lands from Open Space (OS) zone to Waterfront Residential - XX (WR3-XX) exception zone in order to:

- Recognize the setbacks for existing structures;
- Recognize the existing lot frontage and lot area; and
- Recognize the intended use of Waterfront Residential for the subject property.

Location: 6045 Haliburton Lake Road, legally described as Part Lot 15, Concession 10, Block A, Parcel 1, Plan 395 in the Geographic Township of Harburn, now in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Municipal Clerk at mbishop@dysartetel.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT APPEAL RIGHTS: Contact the Planning and Land Information Department by appointment during regular office hours (8:30 A.M-4:30 P.M, Monday to Friday), or by contacting Kris Orsan, Manager of Planning at korsan@dysartetel.ca.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 19th day of November 2024.

Kris Orsan, CPT,
Manager of Planning
Planning and Land Information
Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-1740 ext. 626
E-mail: korsan@dysartetel.ca

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Home Game



VS



Saturday, Nov. 23 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games



Saturday, Nov. 30
4 p.m.



Saturday, Dec. 14
4 p.m.

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WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

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The successful applicant will have experience in bookkeeping and strong computer skills
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Housing administration is an asset. A Vulnerable Sector Check is also required.

This position includes employer paid benefits after 3 months (medical, dental, vision and
life insurance). Eligible to participate in the OMERS pension plan.

The wage will be \$22-\$30/hour based on experience. Position to commence January 2025.

Please submit your resume no later than 4:30 p.m. Dec 13, 2024 to:
Staanworth Non-Profit Housing, 44 Parkside Street, Minden, KOM 2K0
or emailed to manager@staanworth.ca

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Addition to Minden Community Centre

An addition is being added to the Minden Community Centre at Minden. The extension which is being constructed at the back of the arena will house the Zamboni and will also serve as a storage place for the Carnival equipment which is owned

by the Minden Rotary Club. The new addition which is 40 x 60 is being built by Don Campbell Building Contractor of Minden.

This new project when completed will serve a great many important purposes.

New LCBO store under construction in Minden

The new L.C.B.O. store which is being constructed next to the present Brewers Warehouse store in Minden is well underway, and it won't be too long before it will be open for business. We understand that it will be officially opened sometime in December.

The new store which will replace the old one that is presently located across from the John Welch and Son Ltd. Funeral home will have a

larger floor space and more spacious parking facilities for the customers.

Smash windows

There were some incidents of broken windows in the Coboconk OPP detachment area over Halloween, according to the police record. These included two plate glass windows at the Red and White store in Norland with an estimated value of \$300. total.

In Haliburton

Construction began on new resort complex

Construction began this week on the new resort complex to be known as The Pinestone Inn and Country Club. The resort is being developed by One 2 One Corporation and the General Contractor is Rusgate Construction, Toronto. Architect for the Inn is Gordon Ridgely of Hamilton, Ridgely and Bennett, Toronto. Completion target date is June 1,

1976.

The Inn will contain 36 motel style units, a dining room with 90 seats, cocktail lounge with 80 seats, a banquet and conference room for 100 persons. The President of Rusgate Construction, Mr. Perry Connelly, was most impressed with the site for the new Inn as well as the progress being made on the Golf

Course. Mr. Connelly who has built fourteen Holiday Inns in Ontario and the Caribbean expects his full crews to be on the site by November 15th.

The President of One 2 One Corporation, Mr. Wren Blair, was also in town this weekend to sign the construction contracts and to have a quiet weekend away from the hockey wars.

HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

"The voice of the Highlands"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1975

20 PAGES

15 CENTS

Canadian Legion honours soldiers

On Tuesday morning at the hour of 10 a.m. in the Royal Canadian Legion Auditorium, a service of Remembrance will be held to pay tribute to those brave men who laid down their lives making it possible for us to live in peace and comfort in the finest land under the sun.

Is it asking too much of the citizens of this area to pause on Tuesday morning for an hour to participate in this act of Remembrance.

Following the service at the Legion a parade led by the Haliburton Legion Pipe and Drums will make its way to the Cenotaph on Highland Street for the laying of the wreaths and the act of Remembrance at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited to take part in these services.

In the evening a Remembrance Day dinner will be held in the Royal Canadian Legion for Legionnaires and their wives and/or friend.

Remember..
Think..

PARTICIPATE

Plea for Industrial Base Aid

Eakins urges more help for smaller communities

Liberal MPP John Eakins of Victoria-Haliburton has urged the Provincial Government to assist smaller communities in Ontario in the development of a stronger industrial base.

Mr. Eakins did this during discussion of the estimates of the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Tourism.

"Last January the government announced plans for spending literally millions of dollars on a new industrial park in the Spencerville area of Eastern Ontario," said Mr. Eakins, "and I feel very strongly that the money involved would be used to much greater advantage by being given to communities across the province which desperately need assistance in developing a stronger industrial base."

"Apparently the minister of industry and tourism feels that there is virtually nothing his ministry can do to attract industry to specific areas; but undoubtedly his ministry

and the provincial government as a whole has a direct responsibility to make decisions on the future development of Metropolitan Toronto, for example.

"Urban development is progressing at a pace which is evidently out of control, from the point of view of housing, transportation facilities, and the entire socio-economic situation is a matter of concern to people living in the Metro area. The people of Toronto have voiced their own feelings very clearly by their choice of elected officials in the last three or four years. There is a great need for a slow down in the development and expansion of the metropolitan area. London, England, faced with a similar situation took action in this connection by creating a greenbelt around the city and giving enormous incentives to the location of industry in areas away from the metropolis."

"Our small communities

are experiencing great difficulties. They are losing their young people and their skilled workers to the cities

because that is where the jobs are to be found." Industry is attracted to the city core because of the

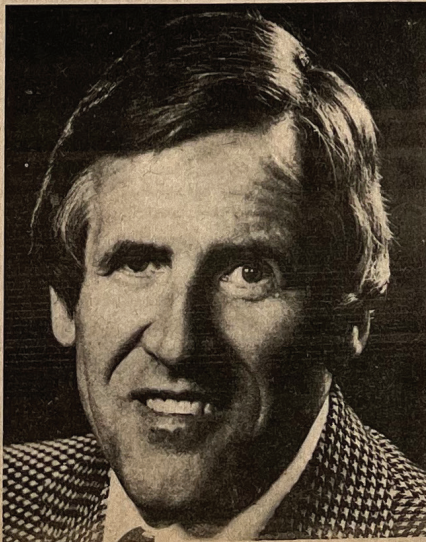
availability of manpower. We have, in effect, a vicious circle, and we must take action before we have a crisis on our hands.

"Sooner or later we must take the bull by the horns, and inaugurate an over-all provincial plan of development to assist our smaller communities. In some cases a population increase of 2,000 people would be of tremendous assistance, whilst even 500 people would make a noticeable difference in other areas. At the same time, we would be removing some of the intense pressure being experienced in our urban centres."

Addressing his remarks to the minister, Mr. Eakins recalled that last February 21st, while, addressing the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, you noted that my riding has contributed substantially to the province's tourism industry. As you said Mr. Minister, Haliburton is one

of the major growth areas in Ontario in terms of private cottage growth; in fact our growth rate is faster than province-wide figures.

"I mention this Mr. Chairman, to underscore the importance of these estimates - they are important to Victoria-Haliburton and they are important to Ontario. On that point Mr. Minister, let me say, I share your concern on tenders extended by the Organizing Committee for the 1976 Olympic Games. In particular I quote from the Globe and Mail that the only companies who need apply are those "having their principal place of business in the Province of Quebec and able to manufacture in Quebec." Now we all find this offensive. But Mr. Minister, I cannot agree with your fellow Cabinet Minister, the Treasurer, who said that "as the biggest and wealthiest Province in Confederation, we have to live with this."



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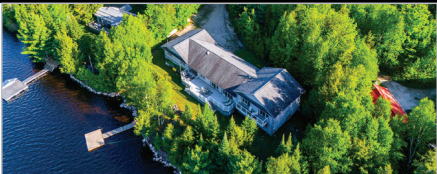


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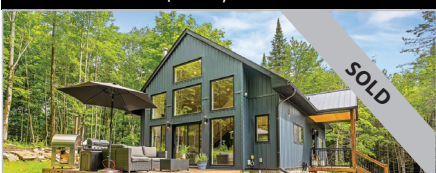
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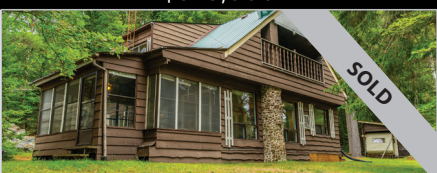
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